



## SHELDON A. WASSERMAN

Milwaukee County Board  
3rd District Supervisor

### ADDRESS

901 N. 9th Street, RM 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233

### PHONE

(414) 278-4237

### EMAIL

sheldon.wasserman@  
milwaukeecountywi.gov

### WEB

[www.milwaukee.gov/Wasserman](http://www.milwaukee.gov/Wasserman)



[www.facebook.com/District3Milw](https://www.facebook.com/District3Milw)



[www.twitter.com/SupvWasserman](https://www.twitter.com/SupvWasserman)

### COMMITTEES

Finance & Audit

Health and Human Needs

Parks, Energy & Environment



# SHELDON WASSERMAN

## 3<sup>RD</sup> DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FALL 2019

### Dear Neighbors,

I hope this letter finds you well. As the end of the year draws near, I want to provide you with an update on Milwaukee County government and how I've been working to advocate for our District. It has been an honor serving as your Supervisor this year; and I look forward to continuing to work closely with you to make Milwaukee County government work efficiently and fiscally responsible.

One of the most alarming and often misunderstood problems in our County is the budget deficit we face. The end of the year calls for the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors and the County Executive to map out a budget that will hopefully allow us to refrain from cutting County services; but even with the progress made in the last seven years, the budget gap Milwaukee County faces is without a doubt debilitating. As hard as the Board of Supervisors tries to obtain the funds, there is just not enough money to sufficiently provide for our constituents through County run programs, such as our Parks and Transit system. With Milwaukee County needing to close a projected \$28 million budget gap in 2020, I—along with the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors—am faced with the tough task of deciding which programs get the funding they need and at the expense of what other programs.

However, to look towards the future for solutions it is important to understand how we arrived at our current situation. Over the past seven years the County has faced a cumulative deficit of almost \$245 million. This is because of three major factors, the first and most difficult being that revenue Milwaukee County receives back from the State continues to be less than we provide to the State. Milwaukee County has always been regarded as the financial engine of Wisconsin, as it is the largest County in the state. Yet, the average growth of State Shared Revenue is only 0.9% while our County's expenditures continue to grow on average 2.3% each year. In the past eight years, our County's shared revenue has decreased by \$10.4 million. This leads to the second factor: the budget imbalance; the State Shared Revenue we receive is continuously outweighed by the financial expenses for the County's mandated services. These two factors inevitably lead to a deficit gap, which will only continue to grow without an increase of State Shared Revenue.

Milwaukee County's ability to generate revenue is extremely limited by state laws, but recently—as an extension of the overall Fair Deal for Milwaukee County proposal—Milwaukee County Board Chairman Lipscomb and County Executive Abele presented a plan called Move Forward MKE before the Intergovernmental Cooperation Council. This Plan would seek authority from the State of Wisconsin for a referendum to adopt a 1% County Sales Tax increase with 25% of it dedicated to property tax relief and splitting the remaining sales tax proceeds with the municipalities based on population. The idea of increasing sales tax can sound distressing to most, but it's important to know that the sales tax for everyday items such as food and prescription medicines would not be touched. It's also important to know that this kind of plan would not be suggested if the County were not facing such a significant crisis. However, for this referendum to be approved, Milwaukee County residents would need to vote in favor of it. Over the summer Chairman Lipscomb has teamed up with all the District Supervisors to conduct town halls related to the Fair Deal proposal and has provided constituents with a means to show their approval or disapproval of Move Forward MKE. If you would like more information about doing so, please reach out to my District Office for assistance.

I encourage you to reach out with any questions, comments, or concerns you may have. Your input is extremely valuable to me and our District. As always, I have included a survey questionnaire that I ask you please consider completing. You can do so either online at [www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNPSVQB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNPSVQB) or by mailing the attached paper version back to my office. If you would like to receive monthly updates related to the Milwaukee County government, please contact my office with your email address. These updates can also be found by following my County Facebook page.

Sincerely,

Sheldon A. Wasserman  
County Supervisor, District 3

If you would like to receive periodic updates on County news and events  
in our community, sign up for my e-newsletter at:  
[www.milwaukee.gov/Wasserman](http://www.milwaukee.gov/Wasserman)



*Supervisor Wasserman testifying on legislation during a meeting of the Milwaukee County Board.*



## Water Safety Initiative

During the Summer of 2017, the Shorewood Community experienced the tragic drowning of a young boy that took place at Atwater Park. After this tragedy, I announced a \$35,000 budget amendment to address the racial and ethnic disparities in drowning fatalities across Milwaukee County. It has been two years since I initially introduced this budget amendment and I still intend to provide all children in the County with the access to swim lessons. Milwaukee County Parks has provided or partnered in providing a total of 1455 swim lessons thus far in 2019; with 1065 individuals participating in a YMCA partnered program known as Safety Around Water. With these numbers continuing to grow I am continuing to work with Parks Department to determine what resources we can provide to the District to promote swim education.

I still believe that one of the most crucial ways to ensure safety at our beaches is to employ lifeguards. Lifeguarding remains a great first job for teenagers, keeping them active and engaged with the community and Parks. This past April, the Milwaukee County Parks Department posted hundreds of seasonal positions with 99 of them being lifeguard positions at beaches, pools and aquatic parks.

Next Spring encourage your children to take an interest in swim safety or lifeguard training through Milwaukee County Parks Aquatics or the Red Cross; because it could very well save their life or the life of someone else.



*Supervisor Wasserman gives remarks at the Shorewood Men's Club 2019 Memorial Day event at Atwater Park.*

## Supervisor Wasserman Invites You to Enjoy These FREE Milwaukee County Attractions



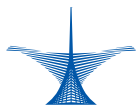
### Thank You Thursday

Free general admission to MPM on the first Thursday of every month. Visit [mpm.edu](http://mpm.edu) for more info.



### Family FREE Days & Special Holidays

2019: 11/2, 12/7. Thanksgiving, Christmas & New Year's Day. Visit [milwaukeezoo.org](http://milwaukeezoo.org) for more info.



MILWAUKEE ART MUSEUM

**FREE for all visitors the first Thursday of every month**  
Visit [mam.org](http://mam.org) for more info.



**FREE the first Thursday of every month for County residents**

Excludes major holidays. Visit [milwaueedomes.org](http://milwaueedomes.org) for more info.

**Charles Allis Art Museum**

**FREE for all visitors the first Wednesday of every month**  
Visit [charlesallis.org](http://charlesallis.org) for more info.

**VILLA TERRACE DECORATIVE ARTS MUSEUM**

**FREE for all visitors the first Wednesday of every month**  
Visit [villaterrace.org](http://villaterrace.org) for more info.



# Milwaukee County 3rd District Constituent Survey - Your Opinion Counts!

District 3 Neighbors: I need your help. Please complete the survey below, or online at: [www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNPSVQB](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/HNPSVQB). All survey responses must be completed and returned by January 1st, 2020.

1. One of the biggest issues facing Milwaukee County is that our Courthouse, Safety Building, and Mitchell Park Domes are steadily falling into structural disrepair. The estimated cost to repair these facilities is at least \$400 million. Our County Parks have at least \$200 million of deferred maintenance throughout the entire system. It is not possible for us to fund all these ventures. Where do you think we should allocate our limited funding? Please rate the options 1-7 with 1 being highest priority and 7 being the lowest.

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> a. Parks                               | <input type="checkbox"/> e. Public Museum                                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> b. Milwaukee County Courthouse repairs | <input type="checkbox"/> f. Mitchell Park Domes                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> c. Safety Building                     | <input type="checkbox"/> g. Milwaukee County Transit System & Paratransit |
| <input type="checkbox"/> d. Medical Examiner Facility           | <input type="checkbox"/> h. Other? Please specify: _____                  |

2. Would you vote to raise sales tax by 1% to increase funding for Milwaukee County government expenses?

- ☐ Yes      ☐ No

3. Should the road under the Lake Park bridge be re-opened to vehicular traffic as it previously was or strictly as a pedestrian/bike path only?

- ☐ Re-opened to vehicles      ☐ Re-opened strictly as pedestrian/bike path

4. The Domes Task Force released a business plan that estimates restoration of the Domes to be \$66 million with \$13.5 million coming from Milwaukee County tax payers. If given the chance, would you accept a sales tax increase, property tax increase, or no governmental money to be used for the Domes?

- ☐ Sales tax increase      ☐ Property tax increase      ☐ No governmental money to be used

5. For e-updates, please provide your email address: \_\_\_\_\_

To Submit: Please mail to **Sheldon Wasserman, Milwaukee County Courthouse, 901 N. 9th St. Rm 201, Milwaukee, WI 53233**



## Ravine Road Bridge

On June 24th, 2019, the County Board of Supervisors passed the final amended resolution on the Lake Park Ravine Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project. The Project is anticipated to be complete by late 2022 and Milwaukee County Parks Department will continue to work with Lake Park Friends to formalize an agreement for a maintenance endowment, to maintain the bridge over its extended lifecycle; which has been estimated to be 50 years. Additionally, the Parks Department will also use internal resources or existing operating appropriations to provide a report to the County Board in the December 2019 cycle detailing plans and costs for the re-opening of Ravine Road (the Road) or closing of the Road for reconstruction of a pathway for use by pedestrians and bicyclists, is handicap accessible, and reflects the historical significance of the original park design. Once the results of this report have been made available to me, I will share with you a link to review them.

## Oak Leaf Trail

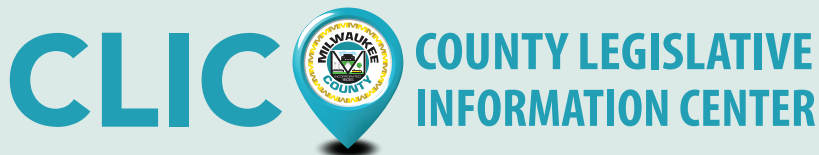
In 2018, Milwaukee County Parks Department in partnership with the Urban Ecology Center raised money to create a new access ramp on the northern side of North Avenue. This ramp now connects the loop within the Arboretum from the Oak Leaf Trail to the East Bank Trail from North Avenue to Locust Street. The Oak Leaf Trail is a vital line of eco-friendly transportation and a way that countless members of our community achieve daily exercise. The North Avenue access ramp was a major win for our District and its execution propels me to fight for even more improvements to trail connections within our District.





**SHELDON A. WASSERMAN**  
**Milwaukee County Supervisor, 3rd District**  
Milwaukee County Courthouse  
901 N. 9th Street, RM 201  
Milwaukee, WI 53233-1425

PRSRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MILWAUKEE, WI  
PERMIT 500



For legislative files, agendas, minutes and schedules for all Milwaukee County committee and board meetings, please visit the County Legislative Information Center at:  
[county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC](http://county.milwaukee.gov/CLIC)

## Service Guide for 3rd District Milwaukee County Residents

County Supervisor Sheldon A. Wasserman.....278-4278

### Airports

Mitchell International Airport ..... 747-5300

Timmerman Airport ..... 461-3222

Child Support Enforcement ..... 615-2593

Clerk of Circuit Court.....278-5362

County Clerk ..... 278-4067

County Executive ..... 278-4211

County Treasurer.....278-4033

### Courts

Civil Division (small & large claims) ..... 278-4120

Criminal Division.....278-4538

Children's Court ..... 257-7700

Department on Aging.....289-6874

Dept. of Health & Human Services..... 289-6877

### District Attorney's Office

John Chisholm ..... 278-4646

Election Commission ..... 278-4060

### Emergency/Public Safety

Sheriff (non-emergency) .....278-4700

Sheriff (non-emergency) .....278-4766

Burn Center Hotline (24 hours) ..... 272-2876

Emergency Management (24 hours) .....525-5770

Suicide Prevention/Intervention

Mental Health Crisis..... 257-7222

Fraud Hotline.....93-FRAUD

### House of Correction

General and Visiting Information ..... 427-4700

### Jury Services

General Information ..... 278-4468/278-4469

Reserve Juror Message ..... 985-6000

Low Income Housing/Rent Assistance..... 278-4894

Marcus Center for the Performing Arts..... 273-7121

Marriage Licenses/Passports/DNR License... 278-4067

Medical Examiner ..... 223-1200

Mental Health Complex .....257-6995

Admitting (Emergency) ..... 257-7260

Milwaukee Art Museum ..... 224-3200

Milwaukee County Historical Society .....273-8288

### Milwaukee County Parks

Boerner Botanical Gardens .....525-5600

General Information ..... 257-7275

Parks Hotline .....257-5100

Organized Sports .....257-8030

Golf Reservations.....475-6222

Golf Office ..... 257-8024

### District 3 Parks

Big Bay ..... 964-0064

Bradford Beach ..... 962-8809

Cambridge Woods ..... 962-8809

Estabrook .....964-0064

Gilman Triangle ..... 962-8809

Mckinley ..... 273-5224

Prospect Triangle..... 962-8809

Veterans..... 962-8809

War Memorial & Art Center Grounds ..... 273-5533

Milwaukee County Zoo .....771-3040

Milwaukee Public Museum..... 278-2702

Office of Persons with Disabilities ..... 278-3932

Register in Probate ..... 278-4444

Register of Deeds.....278-4021

### Transit System

Bus Routes/Schedules/Fares .....344-6711

Customer Comments ..... 937-3218

Transit Plus ..... 343-1700

UW-Extension.....256-4600

Veterans Services.....266-1234

### Victim/Witness Service

General Information-Felony ..... 278-4667

### City of Milwaukee

City Hall/Common Council .....286-2221

Night..... 286-CITY (2489)